

## WEEKLY REPORT

March 12, 2008

### Member Op/Eds

**Rep. Gresham Barrett** wrote about his recent trip to Afghanistan and Iraq in The State, the largest newspaper in South Carolina. *"I mention these stories, and know hundreds more exist, to stress this fact: We are winning! Detractors will say that for any successes there are also setbacks, and I would be untruthful if I didn't concede some of that. There is so much more to do in both countries. So many more goals and plans to implement — but I saw, lived and breathed these successes, and I have to tell these stories. I believe with all my heart that failure is not an option, and winning, even with its high cost, is the only acceptable outcome,"* Barrett wrote.

### RSC TV is a hit!

Last week, RSC TV was launched and is highlighted on the RSC website. You can check it out at: <http://www.youtube.com/user/RSC110th>. There are currently 13 videos uploaded onto the RSC Channel, but we'd like to feature as many of our Members as possible. Any RSC member wishing to submit a floor speech, media appearance or any other video should contact the RSC office.

### A Successful District Budget Tour

**Rep. Bob Goodlatte** and his staff organized an extremely successful budget tour across the 6<sup>th</sup> district of Virginia on Monday. Not only are these type of events popular with constituents, local media often feeds off of these town-hall style events. In addition to local TV and radio coverage, check out some of the headlines in yesterday's papers:

The Staunton News Leader: **"Goodlatte warns Democratic budget plan will force tax hike."**

The Harrisonburg Daily News: **"Goodlatte Lauds Tax Cuts; Congressman Concerned About Dems' Spending Plan."**

The News Virginian: **"Goodlatte calls for federal spending to be tightened."**

The debate over the budget not only provides an excellent earned media opportunity, but also an opportunity to contrast the fiscally responsible budget authored by Rep. Paul Ryan with the Democrats' budget, which is the largest in American history and will be subsidized by the largest tax increase ever imposed upon the American people. With tax day fast approaching, it is critical to talk in the district about the fact that under the Democrats' plan, every taxpayer in America will be forced to pay even more taxes.

### One Minutes & Special Order Participation

From March 5 thru March 11, 11 RSC Members delivered one-minute speeches. Rep. Drake, Rep. Foxx, Rep. Fallin, Rep. Wilson, and Rep. Price all delivered speeches on FISA. Rep. Wilson, Rep. Pence, and Rep. Foxx spoke about Iraq, Afghanistan, and support our troops. Rep. Wilson and Rep. Poe spoke about taxes, and Rep. Johnson spoke about immigration.

On March 6, Representative Price hosted a special order on FISA. Rep. Blackburn, Rep. Westmorland, and Rep. Hoekstra participated.

#### **Communicator of the Week**

**Rep. John Kline (MN)**  
**discusses earmark reform on**  
**KSTP Minneapolis (ABC Affiliate)**

*"The system in Washington is now completely broken. In the last budget cycle, we had 32,000 earmark requests and over 11,000 were included in spending bills. That completely warps the process we're supposed to be going through to set priorities for how we are going to spend money.... It is not a merit system, and we need to fix it."*

**For more information, please contact Brad Dayspring at x68582**